

Abraham Bosomworth to George Washington, July 24, 1758, Letters to Washington and Accompanying Papers. Published by the Society of the Colonial Dames of America. Edited by Stanislaus Murray Hamilton.

FROM CAPTAIN A. BOTOMWORTH.

CAMP AT RAYS TOWN 24th. July 1758

DEAR SIR

I recd. your favour & am sorry to tell you that we have been repulsed at Fort Carillon,¹ we lost 1000 men & the brave Lord How fell the first fire they all landed at the bottom of the Lake without opposition the French Indians run away at the first Fire, Major Rutherford & Captn. Rutherford are in the list of the Slain, The Remains of Lord How are brought to Albany; we have taken a French Frigate coming out of Louisbourg with the Governor's Lady & all the Treasure of the place there is not the least reason to doubt of its being in our Possession—The Delaware Indians have sued for a Peace Old King Tudyuscanny has taken up the Hatchett against the French I wish this may not be a Stroke of French Policy, they Promise to join us from the Ohio and have settled Signals for that Purpose I shall have some dependance upon them when they bring in their Women and Children They are to release 300 English Captives, the Genl. sleeps at Fort Lyttleton this night & will be at this Camp on Wednesday for certain. I am

Dr. Sr. Your most obedt. Hble Servt. A. BOTOMWORTH.

Your Canteens are upon the road/

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1 As part of the military operations for 1758, it was intended to dislodge the French from Ticonderoga or Carillon (as the French called it), and accordingly on July 6, Major-General James Abercromby determined to carry the place by assault. The siege lasted until the 9th, and ended in Abercromby's complete rout, so much so, says Mr. Gerald E. Hart in his admirable paper, *The Fall of New France*, read before the Society for Historical Studies of Montreal, that had he been followed by Montcalm he would not have escaped without a tremendous loss of life. According to the same authority, the English forces consisted of the Royal Artillery, the 27th, 42d Highlanders, 44th, 46th, 55th, 1st, and 2d Battalions of Royal Americans (the 60th), commingled with 9000 provincial troops. Major Rutherford and Captain Rutherford, of whom Captain Botomworth writes to Washington, were of the latter, and our own countrymen, who gave up their lives in the winning of Canada for Britain.